

State of New Jersey
Government Records Request
Receipt

Requestor Information

Waqas Mirza

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Request Date: October 19, 2016

Maximum Authorized Cost: \$25.00

Email

Request Number: W114527

Request Status: Denied Closed

Ready Date:

Custodian Contact Information

Office of the Attorney General

Records Custodian

PO Box 081

25 Market Street - 3rd Floor West

Trenton, NJ 08625-0081

oag.records@lps.state.nj.us

609-376-2850

By

Status of Your Request

Your request for government records (# W114527) from the Office of the Attorney General has been reviewed and has been Denied Closed. Detailed information as to the availability of the documents you requested appear below and on following pages as necessary.

The cost and any balance due for this request is shown to the right. Any balance due must be paid in full prior to the release / mailing of the documents.

If you have any questions related to the disposition of this request please contact the Custodian of Records for the Office of the Attorney General. The contact information is in the column to the right. Please reference your request number in any contact or correspondence.

Cost Information

Total Cost:	\$0.00
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Deposit:	\$0.00
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Total Amount Paid:	\$0.00
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Balance Due:	\$0.00
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Document Detail

Div	Doc #	Doc Name	Redaction Req	Pages	Legal Size	Electronic Media	Other Cost
OAG	001	All records related to Attorney General Jeffrey S. Chiesa's 3-month review of NYPD surveillance of Muslims in New Jersey. The review was concluded in May 2012.	N		N	N	
		Denial: 39.Improper and Overbroad ---					

Government Records Request

Receipt

You filed an OPRA request with the Department of Law and Public Safety (L&PS), Office of the Attorney General (OAG) seeking access to: "All records related to Attorney General Jeffrey S. Chiesa's 3-month review of NYPD surveillance of Muslims in New Jersey. The review was concluded in May 2012 and was widely reported on, including by the Associated Press: <https://m.yahoo.com/w/legobpengine/news/ap-nj-finds-nypd-muslim-surveillance-legal-183326533.html>."

Please be advised that your request is overbroad and therefore invalid under OPRA and the common law, and is therefore denied. OPRA does not allow a blanket request for every document a public agency has on file or a wholesale request for general information related to a particular topic. *Gannett N.J. Partners, LP v. County of Middlesex*, 379 N.J. Super. 205, 212 (App. Div. 2005); *MAG Entm't, LLC v. Div. of Alcoholic Beverage Control*, 375 N.J. Super. 534, 548-49 (App. Div. 2005); *Bent v. Twp. of Stafford Police Dep't*, 381 N.J. Super. 30, 36-37 (App. Div. 2005); *Spectraserv, Inc. v. Middlesex County Utilities Auth.*, 416 N.J. Super. 565, 578 (App. Div. 2010); *N.J. Builders Ass'n v. N.J. Council on Affordable Hous.*, 390 N.J. Super. 166, 178-79 (App. Div. 2007). When making a request under that statute, "[t]he requestor must identify the records sought with specificity. The request may not be a broad, generic description of documents that requires the custodian to search the agency's files and 'analyze, compile and collate' the requested information." *Bart v. Passaic County Public Housing Agency*, 406 N.J. Super. 445, 451 (App. Div. 2009)(quoting *MAG Entm't, LLC v. Div. of Alcoholic Beverage Control*, 375 N.J. Super. 534, 549 (App. Div. 2005)).

For that reason, "[u]nder OPRA, agencies are required to disclose only identifiable governmental records not otherwise exempt." *MAG Entm't*, supra, 375 N.J. Super. at 549. "[O]pen-ended searches of an agency's files" are not permissible. *Ibid.*; accord *Bent v. Twp. of Stafford Police Dep't*, 381 N.J. Super. 30, 37 (App. Div. 2005) ("OPRA does not authorize unbridled searches of an agency's property"); *Gannett N.J. Partners, LP v. County of Middlesex*, 379 N.J. Super. 205, 212 (App. Div. 2005) (stating that requestors must "specifically describe the document sought" rather than make "a blanket request").

This request will be considered closed at this time.

Sincerely,
Ivonnely Colon-Fung
OAG Custodian of Records

Your request for government records (# W114527) is as follows:

All records related to Attorney General Jeffrey S. Chiesa's 3-month review of NYPD surveillance of Muslims in New Jersey. The review was concluded in May 2012 and was widely reported on, including by the Associated Press: <https://m.yahoo.com/w/legobpengine/news/ap-nj-finds-nypd-muslim-surveillance-legal-183326533.html>.